

11

synchronizing said second base station to said third base station.

5. A method for providing synchronous communication in a communication system having a plurality of base stations adapted to operate within range of one another, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting a beacon signal from each of a first base station and a second base station at a third base station;

12

synchronizing said third base station to said first base station;

detecting at said second base station handset traffic from a handset adapted to communicate with said third base station; and

synchronizing said second base station to said third base station based upon said handset traffic.

* * * * *